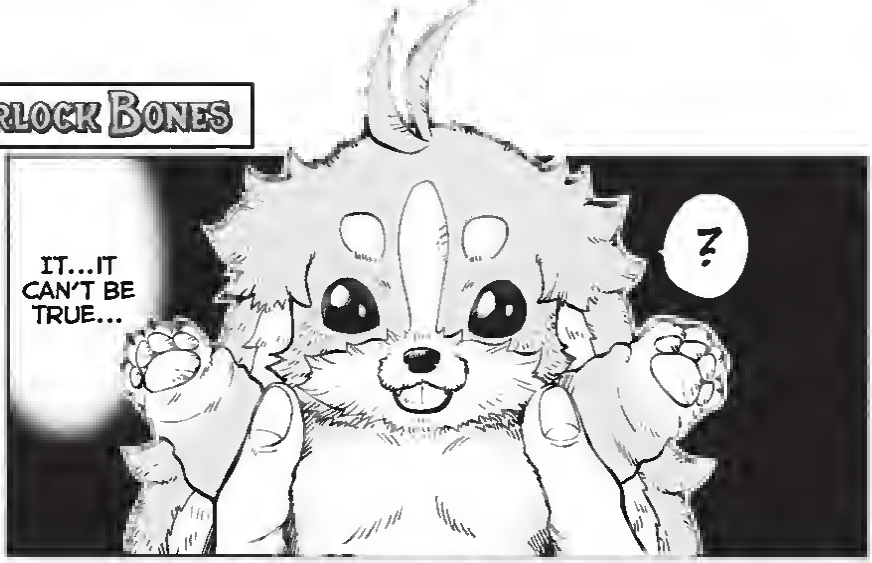


Case 5: ⚜ The Missing Murder Weapon, Part 3

Y... yeah...
Tell him, Takeru!
H-how could you... You just threw him across the room!!
...It's your own fault for bringing a dog here. A manga artist like myself has a lot of valuable material lying around.
Anyway, get Asagi-san's things and leave!

BUT I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO ASK HIM WHAT IT WAS.
SNIFF... SNIFF
<h<h...
THIS IS BAD... SHERDOG REALIZED SOME-THING. WHEN WE GOT HERE.

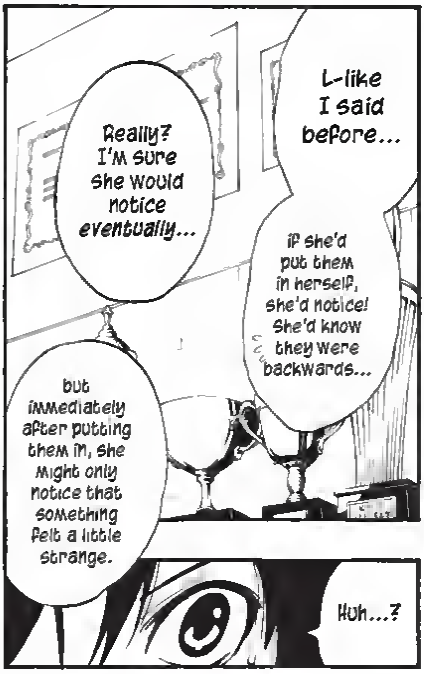
Let me ask you—what do you think it means?
...I have no idea.
CREAK
ANYWAY, I'LL JUST HAVE TO USE WHAT I ALREADY KNOW.
You might know what it means...that her contacts were in backwards.
I...I just thought...since you're an expert Mystery writer.

...
he, UM, found contact lenses... in Asagi's bag....
then... to hide that...
her glasses... broke...
the murderer killed her in his own room.
I...I think...
and when it happened...
then he... got rid of the broken glasses.
and put them in her eyes...
SMIRK
...You think so?
AND HE WAS IN SUCH A HURRY TO GET IT DONE, HE BOUGHT A CARPET THAT DIDN'T MATCH THE ROOM... RIGHT?
SO HE GOT RID OF ALL THE GLASSES PIECES AND THE BLOOD-STAINED CARPET.
IN OTHER WORDS, **THIS** IS THE SCENE OF THE CRIME!!

He'd have no reason to do something as disgusting as putting contacts on a dead body.
Gff
W... Well...

CREAK
For the sake of argument, let's say you're right.
Couldn't the killer just gather up the glasses pieces and leave them at the scene?

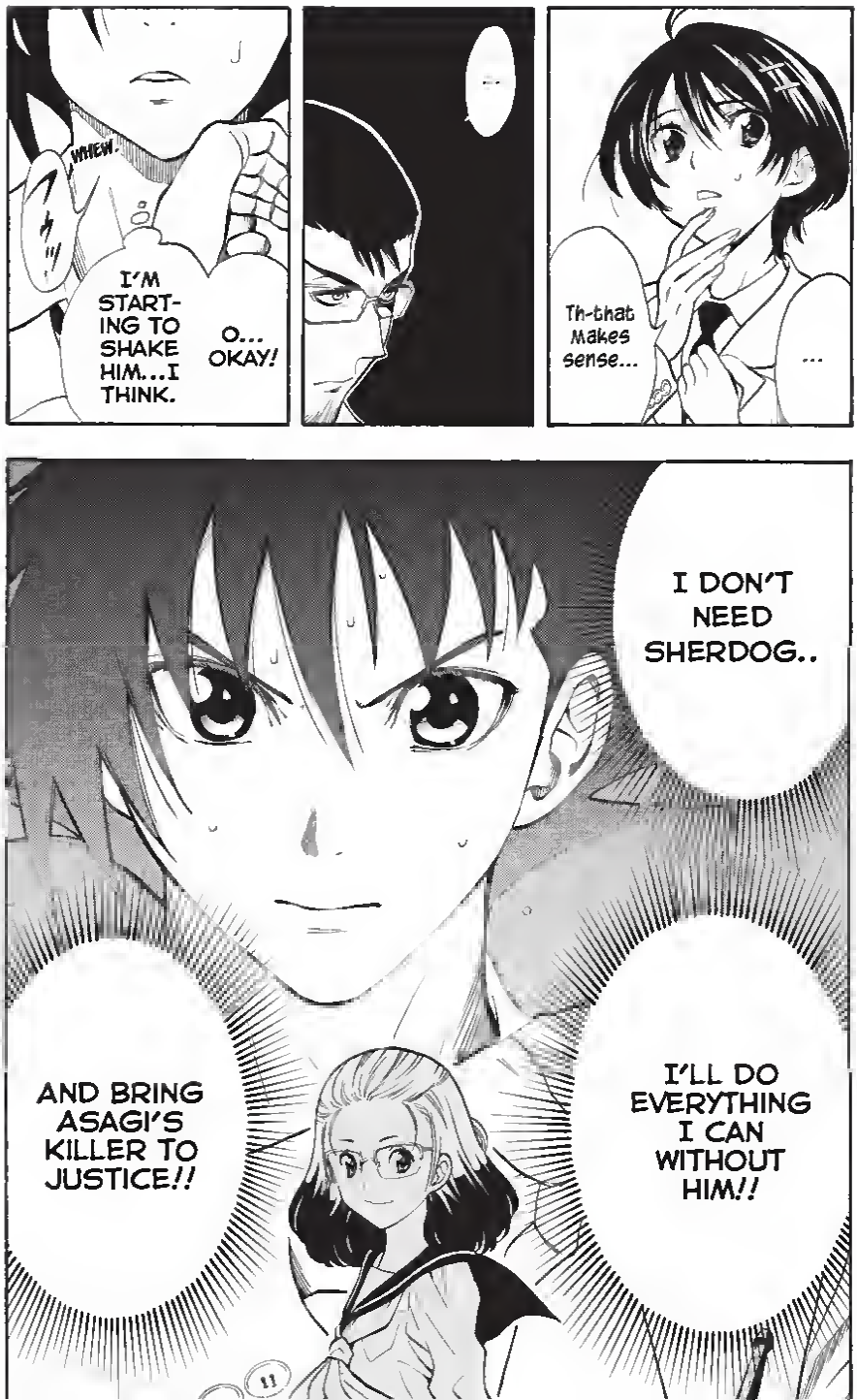
Oh, I see...the thug found her in the public restroom right after she put in her contacts.
Then he hit her from behind with this "blunt weapon" of yours.


L-like I said before...
Really? I'm sure she would notice *eventually*...
If she'd put them in herself, she'd notice! She'd know they were backwards...
but immediately after putting them in, she might only notice that something felt a little strange.
Huh...?

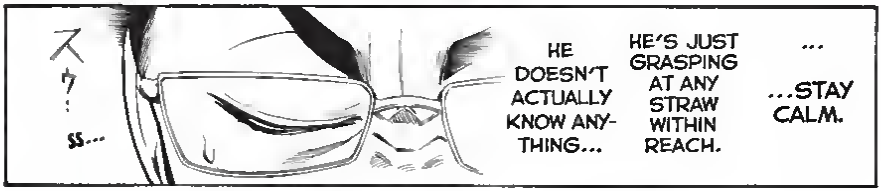
Grr...
she was knocked unconscious... how about that?
And before she even realized there was anything wrong with her contacts,
THERE'S GOTTA BE SOME-THING...
IT ALL SEEMS TO ADD UP.
I think that solves our mystery.
WHAT... WHAT DO I DO...?
Was that helpful at all?
クゥ～ン
WHIMPER...
COME ON, SHER-DOG!!
GASP
ASAGI...!!
DAMMIT...

The Murder weapon!!
That's it... the weapon!
GAH
They said that usually that type of weapon gets left at the scene.
But...
It wasn't there...it wasn't at the crime scene.
According to the investigation, the weapon was something big, blunt, and heavy.
TWITCH
...
What about it?
and they couldn't find one anywhere!!
they looked all around the area,

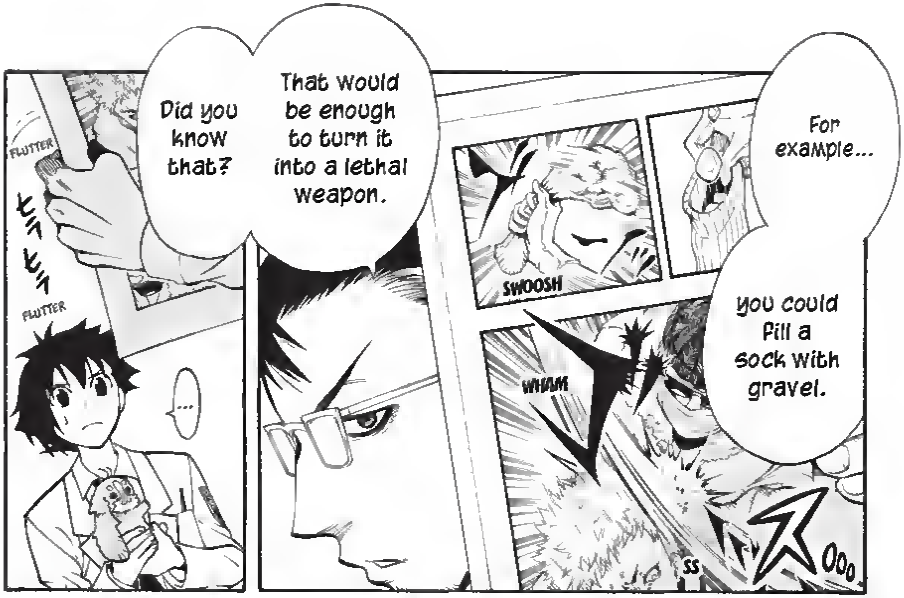
Th... then...
Wouldn't the killer... have left the body in the restroom, too?
If the crime was committed in a public restroom, for example,
You yourself are saying she was killed somewhere else
Like I said, what about it?
Wouldn't the weapon be there?
See? It's a contra-diction!!
...
But if he really just left the weapon in the place where she was killed...
then wouldn't he have left the body there, too?
was trying to make us think that the murder happened in the alley where we found her...
If... if the killer...
he would have...taken the weapon with him...and left it there.


I'M STARTING TO SHAKE HIM...I THINK.
O... OKAY!
Th-that makes sense...
...
I DON'T NEED SHERDOG..
I'LL DO EVERYTHING I CAN WITHOUT HIM!!
AND BRING ASAGI'S KILLER TO JUSTICE!!

What kind of reason?
I don't know...Maybe the weapon... would have tied him to the murder.
had some reason...that he had to cover up the real scene of the crime.
So, uh... basically, the killer...
But there was some reason...he couldn't do that.
it would have been more convenient... to leave it with the body.
And the weap-on...
...


ス?!
ss...
HE DOESN'T ACTUALLY KNOW ANY-THING...
HE'S JUST GRASPING AT ANY STRAW WITHIN REACH.
...
...STAY CALM.

?!
Maybe the weapon disappeared— maybe it doesn't exist anymore.


FLUTTER
FLUTTER
...
Did you know that?
That would be enough to turn it into a lethal weapon.
SWOOSH
WHAM
SS
For example...
you could fill a sock with gravel.
Ooo

So thinking quickly, he took off his sock.
He didn't have a weapon on hand
He spotted Asagi when she went to use the restroom,
The criminal was in his car, keeping an eye out for a suitable victim.
Then, with his makeshift weapon,
He picked up some gravel off the ground around his feet, and stuffed it inside.
and made her his target!
he came up from behind, and...

And when he was about to carry out his purpose,
Then he put her in his car, and took her somewhere deserted.
he realized the girl was dead.
...
and threw it out.
took the body to the first place he could find,
put the bloody sock on his foot,
The killer panicked. He poured the gravel out of his sock.
So he tried to make it look like she was attacked by a passerby.
He didn't want anyone to know there was a car involved.
But...
Why didn't he leave the body there?
But...but if he was already in a deserted place,

So you're saying that this random place he found just happened to be on her way from your studio to her home?
That's some coincidence...
What could it be *but* a coincidence?

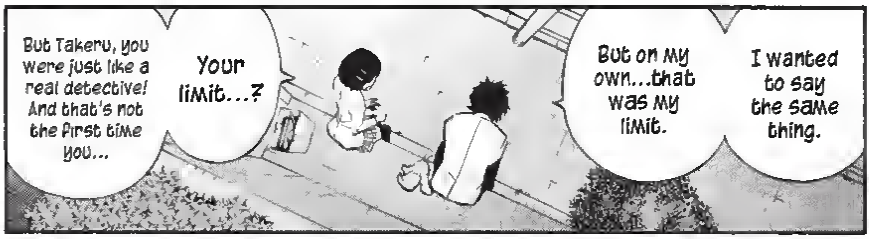
...I killed her.
you think
GLARE

Don't tell Me
...

Moé was *here* before we found her dead!
CLATTER
...Now see here.
Didn't you kill her, Shiratori-sensei?!
M... Miki...!
Didn't you?

WINCE
What you just said is slander. ...And very serious slander at that.
...but there are some things that should never be spoken.
Children like you get away with saying a lot of things...
Y-you won't scare me...
Miki!!
You have no proof—it's all speculation.
CLATTER
You need to go home and ask your daddy
What happens when you accuse innocent people of crimes!

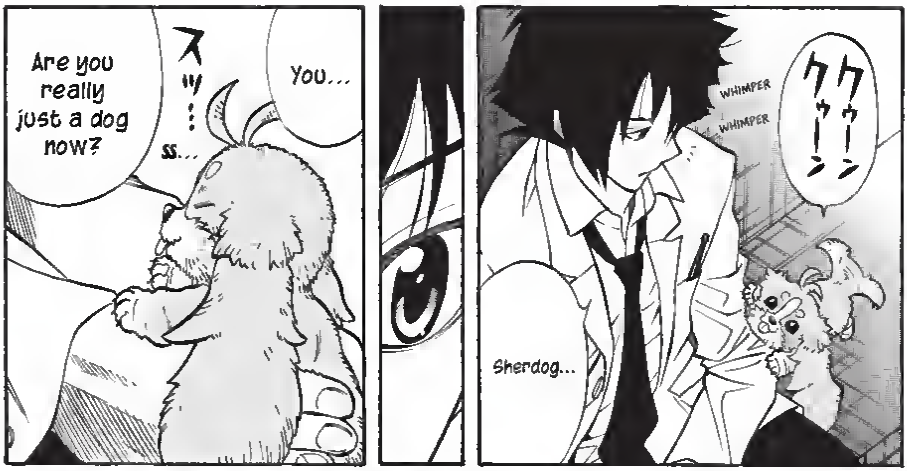
...It's okay.
I'm sorry, Takeru. I couldn't help myself.
...He kicked us out.
HIC
HIC
HIC


But Takeru, you were just like a real detective! And that's not the first time you...
Your limit...?
But on my own...that was my limit.
I wanted to say the same thing.

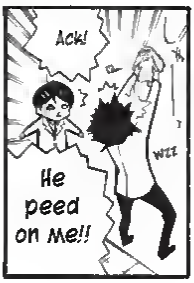
What... do you mean?

Everything I did, I did it with a real detective at my side.
It's not what you think, Miki.
Huh?

you'll believe me.
I need to tell you something.
I think...
We have to hurry. He's a mystery writer...
Dammit!
But now, he's...
I caught all those criminals because he was helping me.
Yeah.
You mean... Sherdog-chan?
The reincarnation of Holmes?!
SNIFF SNIFF
He's going to get rid of every shred of evidence!!


Are you really just a dog now?
You...
WHIMPER
WHIMPER
Sherdog...

I need your incredible powers of deduction and observation.
Will you never talk to me again?

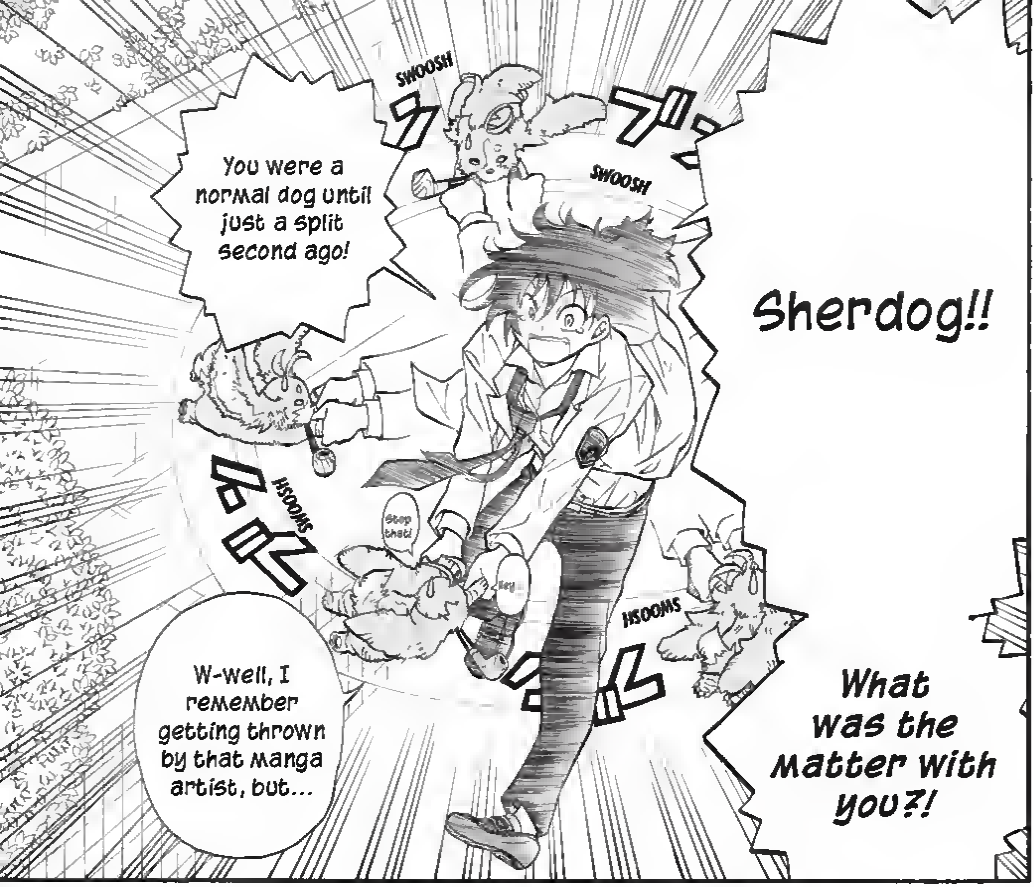

Ack!
He peed on me!!

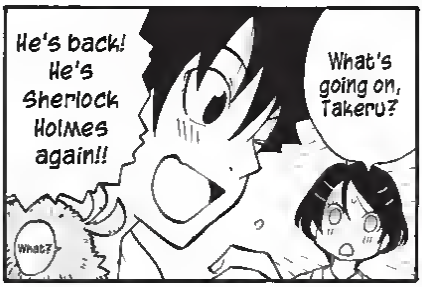
One more time.

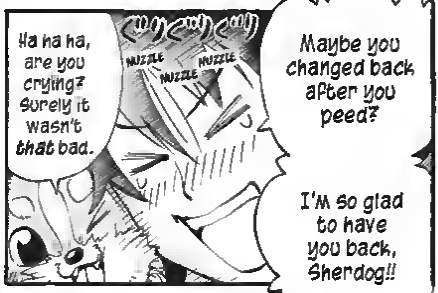
Help me...

Was Sherlock Holmes... all an illusion...?
Was the arrogant English gentleman...
Takeru! Are you okay?
Ha ha. It's no use.
He's totally a normal puppy now.
CHAMP
DON

Why the long face?
What's the matter?
My dear Watson.
Sherdog...
...
S...


SWOOSH
SWOOSH
You were a normal dog until just a split second ago!
Sherdog!!
HSOOMS
HSOOMS
Stop that!
Hey!
W-well, I remember getting thrown by that manga artist, but...
What was the matter with you?!


He's back! He's Sherlock Holmes again!!
What's going on, Takeru?
What?


Ha ha ha, are you crying? Surely it wasn't that bad.
NUZZLE
NUZZLE
NUZZLE
Maybe you changed back after you peed?
I'm so glad to have you back, Sherdog!!

Oh? What might those be?
But because of it, I realized some things that might be key to this case.
Yup.
HMMM...so that's what happened while I was unconscious.

You see...
ARF ARF!
Hmm, I see.
Not bad, Watson.
...
Is he really talking?
But we have to get back into his studio somehow
ARF ARF ARF
Leave that to me, Watson. I have an idea.
An idea?
Yes.
GLANCE...
The missing murder weapon,
and the reason he threw out her glasses!!
We'll use Miss Miki's phone.
ARF!
Miki's...?
And give him no choice but to let us in his room!!
Huh?
Me?
BLANK